

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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September 9, 2003

FROM: **MARK H. UFFER**, Director
 Arrowhead Regional Medical Center

SUBJECT: **AGREEMENTS WITH VARIOUS CLINICS FOR CMSP PATIENTS**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve agreements with the following clinics to provide primary care services to County Medical Services Program (CMSP) patients:

<u>CLINIC</u>	<u>AGREEMENT NO.</u>
Dr. Mike's 24 Hour Walk-In Clinic	03-
Neonatology Medical Group, Inc.	03-
Jason Boutros, M.D., Inc.	03-
Montclair Family Urgent Care	03-

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Prior to 1983, the State of California compensated healthcare providers for care given to the State's Medically Indigent Adult (MIA) population through the Medi-Cal program. In January 1983, California law transferred responsibility for providing health care services to the indigent adult population to California counties. As a result, to comply with State law, San Bernardino County developed its County Medical Services Plan/Medically Indigent Adult (CMSP/MIA) Program.

The County's CMSP/MIA Program is designed to provide basic health care for the County's residents who fall under the MIA Category. A patient is categorized as MIA if he/she meets the following eligibility criteria: Over the age of 21 and under the age of 65; a resident of San Bernardino County; a United States citizen or legal alien; without dependent children; not eligible for other benefits, i.e., Medi-Cal, Medicare, etc.; and have minimal income and financial assets as outlined in the guidelines for Medi-Cal qualification. Patients who qualify for MIA benefits can only receive care at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center or its affiliated family health centers (McKee, Westside, and Fontana Family Health Centers), or through emergent in-patient admissions at a contracted hospital.

In an effort to provide convenient care to patients in outlying areas of the county, and to alleviate the burden on the Medical Center and its affiliated health centers, the Medical Center has contracted with health care providers to provide services to the County's MIA patients.

On January 25, 2000, the Board of Supervisors approved Agreement No. 2000-34 with Arlene Braham, MD, to provide primary care services to MIA patients at the clinic located in Victorville. This agreement was amended on April 10, 2001, increasing the per member per month payment from \$9.50 to \$13.50.

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On March 28, 2000, the Board of Supervisors approved Agreement No. 2000-169 with Medical Personnel Management to provide primary care services to MIA patients at its clinic located in the city of Colton. This agreement was amended on April 10, 2001, increasing the per member per month payment from \$9.50 to \$13.50.

On March 20, 2001, the Board of Supervisors approved Agreement No. 01-207 with Medical Personnel Management to provide primary care services to MIA patients at its clinic, located in the city of San Bernardino, at a per member per month rate of \$13.50.

On September 17, 2001, the Board of Supervisors approved Agreement No. 01-882 with Maithri Weerasinghe, MD, Inc. to provide primary care services to MIA patients at its clinic located in the city of Barstow, at a per member per month rate of \$13.50.

Under the terms of Agreement No. 2000-169, Medical Personnel Management (MPM) exercised its option to delegate and assign duties of the agreement to another provider. MPM made the decision to no longer operate the clinic located in the city of San Bernardino, and assigned its agreement to Clinica Del Sol, Inc. On December 17, 2002, the Board of Supervisors approved Agreement No. 02-1347 with Clinica Del Sol in order to maintain continuity of care to the CMSP patients currently receiving their medical care at this clinic.

The lease on the property housing Clinica Del Sol, Inc. will expire on September 30, 2003; there are no options on this lease. The cost for this lease is \$132,000 annually. The medical center will realize an immediate savings by ending this lease.

Approximately 2000 of the 4100 MIA patients currently serviced at Clinica Del Sol, Inc. Clinic live in zip codes in the West End of the County.

In June 2003, a letter was sent to area physicians on the West End of San Bernardino County, seeking practitioners who would contract with the County to care for the MIA patients.

Following individual meetings with the respondents, a decision was made to diversify the patient population to several clinics. This will allow for a more manageable patient assignment to each practitioner and will avert potential lapses in care for the patients should a practitioner choose to terminate their agreement, as a smaller number of patients will be more easily reassigned to other clinics.

Agreements with Neonatology Medical Group, Inc. (providing family practice services at the Fontana Family Medical Center), Jason Boutros, M.D., Inc. (located in Upland) and Montclair Family Urgent Care will be able to accommodate this patient load.

The Medical Center is requesting Board approval of agreements with Dr. Mike's 24 Hour Walk-In Clinic, Fontana Family Medical Center, Jason Boutros, M.D., Inc. and Montclair Family Urgent Care to provide primary care services to CMSP patients.

Dr. Mike's 24 Hour Walk-In Clinic is expanding to include a second clinic in the Hesperia area. Some of the existing patients from the Barstow Clinic will be reassigned, as this site will be closer to their homes.

Through this process the Medical Center will realize an annual cost savings of \$132,000 through the termination of the lease at Clinica Del Sol. There is no increase in the current \$13.50 per member per month capitated rate. Additionally, the quality of care will be positively impacted by providing a consistent pool of resources in close proximity to the patient population.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Charles J. Larkin, Deputy County Counsel) on August 27, 2003, and HSS Administration (Tom DeSantis, Deputy Administrative Officer and Carol Hughes, Administrative Analyst) on August 27, 2003.

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FINANCIAL IMPACT: Under these new agreements, Clinics will be paid \$13.50 per member per month for all eligible CMSP patients who have been assigned to these clinics to receive their primary care. This represents no increase in expense to the County. The County will realize an annual cost savings of \$132,000 through termination of the lease at Clinica Del Sol.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW:

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: Mark H. Uffer, Director, Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, 580-6150

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